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## Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable SAM BROWBACK, a Senator from the State of Kansas.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray:

Eternal Father, the fountain of all blessings, with grateful hearts we enter Your courts today. We thank You for ordering our steps and directing our paths. Lord, we have lived long enough to know that we can't escape Your presence or Your love. We have sought fulfillment on destructive avenues, but Your love has always found us. Thank You for showing us the way to abundant living. Use Your Senators today to make the world a better place. Provide a shield for our military and comfort those who mourn. Lord, give wisdom to the leaders of our world. We pray this in Your strong name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable SAM BROWBACK led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS.)

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, September 24, 2003.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable SAM BROWBACK, a

Senator from the State of Kansas, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. BROWBACK thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning the Senate will conduct a period of morning business to allow Senators to speak. Following morning business, at approximately 10:35, the Senate will begin consideration of the DC appropriations bill. I know there is one issue that will require some debate and a vote, but it is my hope we can complete this bill in a relatively short period of time. Typically, this is an appropriations measure that has not consumed a great deal of floor time. Senator DEWINE will be ready at a little after 10:30 this morning, and we will monitor progress on this legislation, with the hope of finishing soon.

I also add that we hope again to be receiving from the House some of the completed appropriations conference reports. Once those reports are received, I will be speaking to the Democratic leader about scheduling those measures for floor action. Again, I hope we can move quickly on those items and get them to the President's desk for his signature as soon as possible.

Finally, I also want to remind Members that we will continue to schedule votes on available nominations throughout the week. We have eight judicial nominations pending on the Executive Calendar. Four of these nominations should be ready for Senate action, and we will schedule them over

the course of the next day or so. As always, we will keep Members apprised of the voting schedule and as to when the first vote is ordered today.

Some people have asked about next week. I have already told people that we will be voting on Monday of next week. I mention that because a number of people have asked me.

### IRAQ RECONSTRUCTION REQUEST

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, very briefly, I want to make a comment on the President's comments yesterday before the United Nations.

The President of the United States and leaders from across the globe gathered yesterday at the United Nations headquarters in Manhattan to receive the President's address. It is worth pausing to consider just where that was. The address yesterday was in New York City, in the heart of Manhattan, a few dozen blocks from Ground Zero. The world's leaders were able to safely assemble and freely debate their proposals in a city that had borne the tragedy of September 11. Many were able to exercise more freedom yesterday in New York than is allowed in their own countries.

President Bush, in his address, boldly challenged the assembly to support the cause of liberty in Iraq. His case was powerful, and his case was powerful in part because the cause of freedom itself is so powerful. Some of my colleagues have basically questioned again and again the overall war on terror. There is this magnification of each setback along the way, and many people dismiss the many advances that are being made each and every day. There seems to be this attempt to discredit the war on terror.

Some people say we have acted unilaterally. We know that is false. The truth is we were joined by 49 countries to depose Saddam Hussein and remove his regime. Now we hear increasingly that there was a lack of broad international support on the ground. That is

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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